

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/764,065

Examiner

Andrea N. Long

Applicant(s)

KAWAHARA ET AL.

Art Unit

2176

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 7/2/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-11, 15-26, and 30-32 respectfully renumbered 1-26.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date Attached.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

William L. Bashore
WILLIAM BASHORE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Examiner's Amendment

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Shun Yao on 07/17/2007.

The claims have been amended as follows: Please replace claim 31 and 32 with the following:

Claim 31:

An apparatus that enables a user interface manager to modify a scene graph for an application, comprising:

a receiving mechanism configured to receive the scene graph for the application, wherein the scene graph defines visual attributes for a user interface associated with application;

a rendering mechanism configured to use the scene graph to render a visual output for the user interface;

a display mechanism configured to display the visual output for the user interface to a user of the application; and

a user interface manager configured to modify the scene graph, whereby the user interface manager can produce visual effects for the user interface in addition to visual effects produced by the application;

wherein modifying the scene graph through the user interface manager involves adding a lower-level branch graph to the scene graph to produce a unified scene graph;

wherein the lower-level branch graph is associated with a second application; and

wherein adding the lower-level branch graph to the scene graph additionally involves providing a security mechanism, which can be used to restrict the application from accessing the lower-level branch graph associated with the second application.

Claim 32:

A means for enabling a user interface manager to modify a scene graph for an application, comprising:

a receiving means for receiving the scene graph for the application, wherein the scene graph defines visual attributes for a user interface associated with application;

a rendering means for using the scene graph to render a visual output for the user interface;

a display means for displaying the visual output for the user interface to a user of the application; and

a user interface management means configured to modify the scene graph, whereby the user interface management means can produce visual effects for the user interface in addition to visual effects produced by the application;

wherein modifying the scene graph through the user interface manager involves adding a lower-level branch graph to the scene graph to produce a unified scene graph;

wherein the lower-level branch graph is associated with a second application; and

wherein adding the lower-level branch graph to the scene graph additionally involves providing a security mechanism, which can be used to restrict the application from accessing the lower-level branch graph associated with the second application.

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andrea N. Long whose telephone number is 571-270-1055. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thurs 6:00 am to 3:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Doug Hutton can be reached on 571-272-4137. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Andrea Long
07/19/2007

William L. Bashore
WILLIAM BASHORE
PRIMARY EXAMINER